



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES

Academics

Your major in environmental and sustainability studies will provide the knowledge and skills necessary to address environmental challenges facing our world while preparing you for an exciting career. You will examine the relationships between human behavior and the physical and biological world as well as policy development and application.

Beyond the core requirements, dive deep into one of two options to match your interests:

- **Policy, Advocacy, and Social Justice** — use research skills and an understanding of human behavior and public policy to enact environmental change
- **Biosphere and Earth Systems Studies** — use disciplinary knowledge to understand one of four science-based subdiscipline areas: Earth Systems, Climate, Ecological Systems, and Geospatial Technologies

Opportunities

All over the globe, there is a growing market for individuals who want to contribute to the ever-expanding green economy. Given the broad, interdisciplinary nature of this major, students have the ability to pursue a wide range of environmental careers: sustainability, environmental quality, conservation, environmental education, public health and safety, environmental protection, public policy analysis, environmental consulting, natural resources management, green business or environmental law. Here are examples of recent graduates' employment:

- Corps Member / **MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS**
- Environmental Scientist / **TERRACON CONSULTANTS, INC.**
- Greenhouse Assistant / **URBAN TRAIL GARDENS**
- Land Steward / **THE NATURE CONSERVANCY**
- National Drought Mitigation Center / **UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN**
- Plant Ecologist / **PRAIRIE LEGACY INC.**
- Project Coordinator / **LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPT**
- Sustainability Associate / **CLEANER GREENER LINCOLN**
- Waste Diversion Coordinator / **CITY OF LINCOLN**
- Wildland Firefighter / **UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE**

Experience

In the College of Arts and Sciences, we know experience is valuable and goes beyond the classroom. We strive to help you connect your academics with research, internships, education abroad, service learning and leadership experiences. Take advantage of opportunities such as:

- Studying abroad in Greece to learn about sustainability, the environment and society
- Serving as the Sustain UNL Club president
- Interning with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
- Researching the effects of drought on wheat growth in Nebraska
- Volunteering with Nebraska State Arboretum



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ENVR—SAMPLE 4-YEAR PLAN (POLICY, ADVOCACY, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE OPTION)*

ACE = Achievement-Centered Education CDR = College Distribution Requirements

FIRST SEMESTER

ENVR 101: Environmental Studies Orientation	1
Power, Politics and Policy Course	3
Written Texts / Research & Knowledge Skills (ACE 1)	3
Humanities (ACE 5)	3
CDR: Language	5
Total Hours	15

SECOND SEMESTER

Natural Science Foundations Course(s) (ACE 4) (CDR: Sciences with Lab)	4
Negotiation / Discourse Course (CDR: Social Science)	3
CDR: Language	5
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	3
Total Hours	15

THIRD SEMESTER

ENVR 201: Science, Systems, Environment and Sustainability	3
Natural Science Foundations Course(s)	4
Human Behavior and Change Course	3
Social Sciences (ACE 6)	3
CDR: Language	3
Total Hours	16

FOURTH SEMESTER

ENVR 249: Individual & Cultural Perspectives on the Environment (ACE 9)	3
Natural Science Foundations Course(s)	4
Data Analysis and Research Course	3
CDR: Human Diversity in U.S. Communities	3
CDR: Language	3
Total Hours	16

FIFTH SEMESTER

Natural Science Foundations Course(s)	4
Social Justice / Diversity Course	3
Communication Skills (ACE 2)	3
CDR: Written Communication	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	3
Total Hours	16

SIXTH SEMESTER

ENVR 319: Environmental Engagement and the Community	2
ENVR 495: Internship in Environmental Studies	1
Natural Science Foundations Course(s)	4
Mathematical / Computational / Statistical / Formal Reasoning (ACE 3)	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	4
Total Hours	14

SEVENTH SEMESTER

ENVR 499A: Environmental Studies Senior Thesis I (ACE 10)	1
300- or 400-Level Course	3
Fine Arts (ACE 7)	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	1
Total Hours	14

EIGHTH SEMESTER

ENVR 499B: Environmental Studies Senior Thesis II (ACE 10)	2
300- or 400-Level Course	3
Economics & Policy Course	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	3
Elective / Minor / Secondary Major / Science / Pre-Professional	3
Total Hours	14

*DISCLAIMER: This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with a major of interest in the College of Arts and Sciences. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with an academic advisor at the college and department level.